

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A listing of the claims presented in this patent application appears below. This listing replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in this patent application.

Claims 1 - 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (currently amended): The system according to claim 52, wherein said command signal includes an operation object signal for indicating a display item of an operation object on said control panel and a response designation signal for designating a response of said remote controller to said input operation to said control panel in accordance with said display item.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The system according to claim 4, wherein said display item includes an image of a control button and said input operation to said control panel includes a manual operation of said control button.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The system according to claim 52, wherein said transmission controller comprises a multiplex element for multiplexing said broadcast data and said external control signal into said broadcasting waves for respective channels and a multiplex signal transmission element for transmitting said broadcasting waves for the respective channels to said receiver.

Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended): The system according to claim 52, wherein said switching is transmitted at regular intervals within a predetermined time period.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The system according to claim [[2]] 52, wherein said peripheral device includes a toy device relating to a character[[,]] and said external control signal includes information for operating said toy device in response to an operation of said character appearing in said broadcast program.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The system according to claim [[2]] 52, wherein said peripheral device includes a toy device relating to a charter, wherein said toy device comprises a voice storage, and wherein said external control signal includes[[:]] a voice signal representative of a voice emitted by said character appearing in said broadcast program[[:]] and a storage command signal for instructing said toy device to store said voice signal in said voice storage.

Claims 11-39 (canceled).

Claim 40 (withdrawn): An apparatus for processing a software including content information representing content and control information for controlling a peripheral device in accordance with said content, said apparatus comprising:

an output element for outputting a first signal dependent upon said content information included in said software to a reproduction device; and

a transmission element for transmitting a second signal dependent upon said control information included in said software to said peripheral device.

Claim 41 (withdrawn): The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein said content information includes music information and/or video information, and said control information includes information for controlling an illumination device and/or a body-sonic generator provided as said peripheral device in synchronization with progress in reproducing said music information and/or said video information.

Claim 42 (withdrawn): The apparatus according to claim 40, wherein
said content information includes cooking information, and
said control information includes information for controlling a cooking device provided
as said peripheral device in accordance with progress in reproducing said cooking information.

Claim 43 (withdrawn): A storage medium having software stored thereon, said
software comprising:
content information representing content reproducible by a reproduction device; and
control information for controlling a peripheral device of said reproduction device in
synchronization with reproduction of said content.

Claim 44 (withdrawn): The medium according to claim 42, wherein
said content information includes music information and/or video information; and
said control information includes information for controlling an illumination device
and/or a body-sonic generator provided as said peripheral device in synchronization with
progress in reproducing said music information and/or said video information.

Claim 45 (withdrawn): The medium according to claim 43, wherein
said content information includes cooking information, and
said control information includes information for controlling a cooking device provided
as said peripheral device in accordance with progress in reproducing said cooking information.

Claim 46 (withdrawn): Software comprising:
content information representing content reproducible by a reproduction device; and
control information for controlling a peripheral device in synchronization with
reproduction of said content.

Claim 47 (withdrawn): The software according to claim 46, wherein
said content information includes music information and/or video information; and

said control information includes information for controlling an illumination device and/or a body-sonic generator provided as said peripheral device in synchronization with progress in reproducing said music information and/or said video information.

Claim 48 (withdrawn): The software according to claim 46, wherein
said controller information includes cooking information, and
said control information includes information for controlling a cooking device provided as said peripheral device in accordance with progress in reproducing said cooking information.

Claim 49 (withdrawn): A digital device for use in a space in which a content reproduction device and a home electronic device are provided, said digital device comprising:
a receiver for receiving a digital signal;
an element for extracting a content signal from said digital signal to output said content signal to said content reproduction device; and
an element for extracting a control signal for controlling said home electronic device from said digital signal to output said control signal to said home electronic device,
wherein said home electronic device operates in synchronization with reproduction of said content under control of said control signal.

Claim 50 (withdrawn): The digital device according to claim 49, wherein
said digital signal is a broadcast signal, and
said home electronic device is operable in any one or:
a first operating mode in which said home electronic device operates independently of said broadcast signal; and
a second operating mode in which said home electronic device operates as a peripheral effector device for said content reproduction device in accordance with said control signal.

Claim 51 (withdrawn): A remote controller capable of controlling an audio- and/or visual-electronic device, said remote controller comprising:

a variable display;

a receiver for receiving a control signal synchronized with reproduction of content in said audio- and/or visual-electronic device; and

controller for changing a display item produced on said variable display in response to said control signal.

Claim 52 (new): A broadcasting system comprising a broadcasting device for transmitting broadcasting waves, a receiver for receiving said broadcasting waves, and a peripheral device provided outside said receiver;

said broadcast device comprising a transmission controller for transmitting a combination of broadcast data about a broadcast program and an external control signal for controlling said peripheral device in accordance with contents of said broadcast program in the form of said broadcasting waves to said receiver, said transmission controller comprises a clock element for clocking a broadcasting time of said broadcast program or elapsed time since start of broadcasting as a timing signal and a switching signal transmission element for transmitting a switching signal for said display item on said control panel to said receiver, based on said timing signal;

said receiver comprising a receiver controller for receiving said broadcasting waves from said broadcasting device to output said broadcast data to a reproducer and to transmit a command signal dependent on said external control signal, said receiver controller comprises a switching signal extraction element for extracting said switching signal from said broadcasting waves for a selected channel to transmit said switching signal to said remote controller; and

said peripheral device includes at least one of an illumination device, an air conditioner, a sound generator, and a remote controller for said receiver, said remote controller is controlled by said command signal and comprises a control panel having a display device and a control element for displaying an item dependent on said external control signal on said display device and for transmitting to said receiver an information signal responsive to an input operation to

Application No.: 09/839,231

said control panel in accordance with said item, said control element comprises a switching element for switching a first display item on said control panel to a second display item specified by said external control signal in response to said switching signal.